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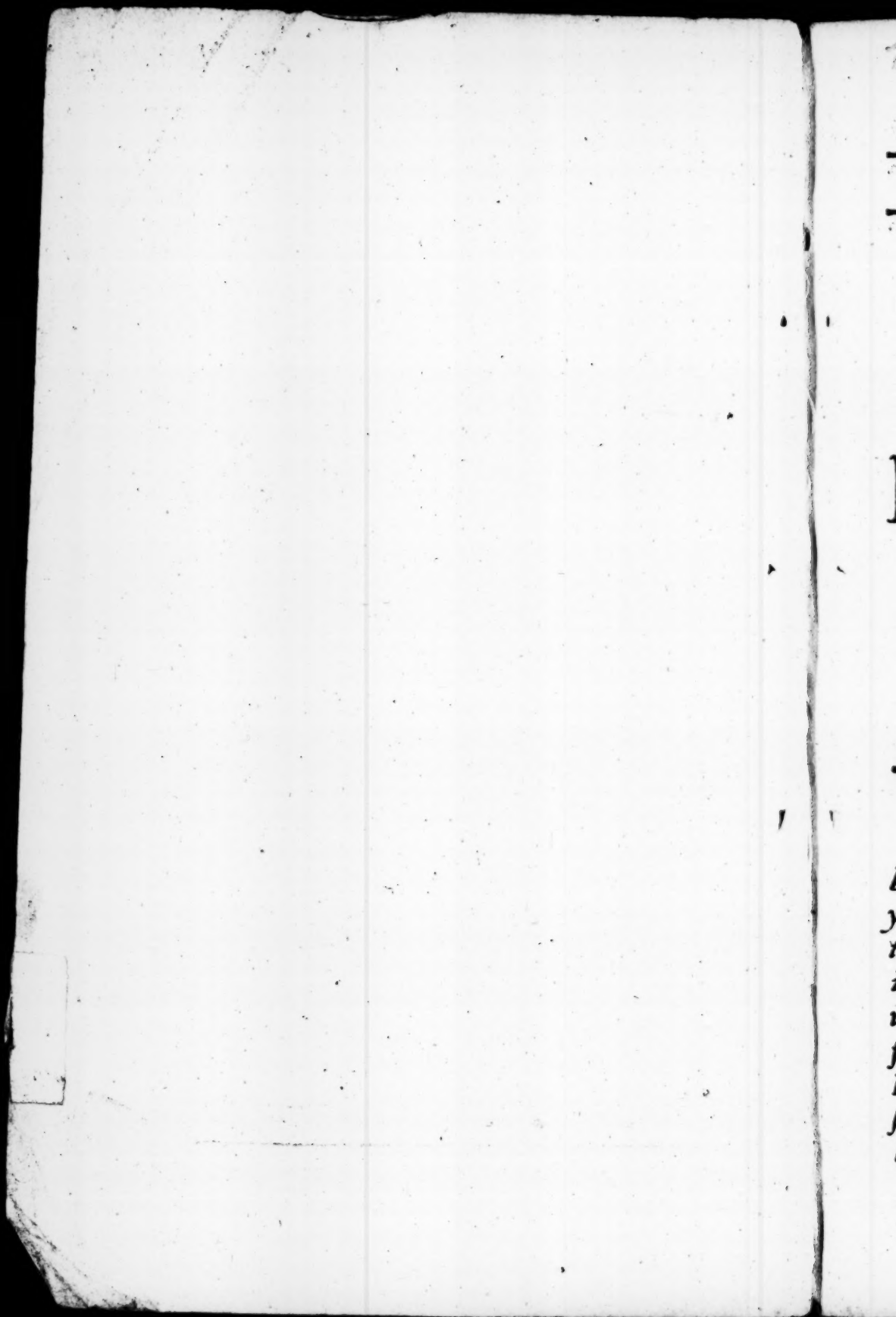
THE
French KING's
LETTER
TO THE
States General :
WITH THE
MEMORIAL

Deliver'd to
Their High Mightinesses,
The 26th of *July*, 1701.

Answer'd and Recited
Paragraph by Paragraph.

From the Originals Printed at the Hague.

L O N D O N:
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THE
French King's
LETTER
 TO THE
STATES, &c.

Most Dear Great Friends, Allies and Confederates,

WE have thought fit to Re-call the
 Count D' Avaux, our Extraordinary
 Ambassador to you, seeing how little
 beneficial the Conferences have prov'd which
 you had desired, and which you have so of-
 ten interrupted. Our intentions are no less
 inclined to Peace, as he will acquaint you
 with before his departure. It remains only
 for us, to assure you, that it is still in your
 Power to receive Proofs of our ancient Friend-
 ship for your Republick, and of the desire we
 had to make you experience the Effects there-

of upon all occasions. We pray that God will keep you, most dear, &c. in his holy Protection. Your good Friends, Allies, and Confederates.

Signed Lewis, and underneath Colbert.

Verfailles, 18th.
of July, 1701.

A N S W E R.

The Title which his Majesty gives the *States General*, by calling their Lordships his *Dear Friends and Allies*, has no manner of Agreement with the Purport of his Letter, that is sent to recall his Ambassador, and is almost as much as a Declaration of War; since it is generally look'd upon as the forerunner of it. And it is very natural to conclude, the most Christian King has no great desire to continue the Peace, when his Minister that came to receive their High Mightinesses Proposals, is sent for home, without any other answer to 'em, than that their demands are Exorbitant, and too great to be granted; when it would have been proper for him, to have been more particular in the nature of its Exorbitancy; had his *Galick Majesty* design'd any security at all to be given 'em. As for the *Interruption of the Conferences*, which is wholly imputed to the *States General*, his Majesty may recollect himself, that they made some Proposals

posals to his Majesty, which he has not as yet vouchsafed any suitable Reply to, and if there was a stop put to the Negotiations then in hand, it is wholly to be laid at his Door, who refused to go on with 'em, unless upon such a foot as would be injurious to the *United Provinces*. His Majesty's *Intentions*, for all that I know, may be for Peace, but I dare be persuaded, that the States General have other Sentiments of his Dispositions; and from his Armies at hand, which are too great to act on the Defensive Part, will make this inference, that his Majesty designs to be upon the Offensive. The States have it not in their Power to receive *Proofs* of his Majesty's *Friendship*, if they have not *Troops* enough to deter him from falling upon 'em; and if they have, the establish'd Maxim of *Nulla est amicitia inter Malos*, is a proof, that a Person of such Principles as his Majesty, can never have a true Friendship for any one, especially those of a contrary Persuasion. His Majesty also might have spar'd his Prayers for this Antient Republick, and his Prevarications with the Deity, when he has no such thing as a good Wish for 'em; and his Guns, whose Motto is *Ratio ultima Regum*, are design'd to speak another sort of Language, than Petitions to God to keep their High Mightinesses in his Holy Protection.

Count

Count *d' Avaux* at the same time delivered the following *MEMORIAL* to the *States General*.

TH E underwritten Count *d' Avaux*, Ambassador Extraordinary from the most Christian King, being arrived at the *Hague* in *Febuary* last, had reason to hope, that the Orders given him by his Majesty, would sufficiently manifest the desire he always had to maintain the Peace, and that your Lordships would make their profit of his favourable Dispositions, after having earnestly desired, that his Majesty would give 'em leave to propose in Regulated Conferences, such securities as you might reasonably desire, and agree at the same time abo it means for preventing a new War.

A N S W E R.

The design of the Count *d' Avaux's* coming to the *Hague*, is now so well known to the States, who have open'd their Eyes, and his Master's Instructions to him so manifest, by the Consequences of the Treaty, that he might have spar'd his *Ar-*
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rival in the Month of February, and forborn to be particular in Time, when he is so general in the Causes which have rendered it successless. As for his Gallick Majesty's Desire of Preserving the Peace, 'tis apparent, he has attempted all manner of ways to break it; and how favourable soever his Dispositions were to the Dutch, a man of any penetration may see, from the Usage he has giv'n 'em, by turning out their Troops out of the Spanish Mortgag'd Towns in the Netherlands, without any manner of satisfaction to their Masters, by debauching 'em from their natural Allegiance, and the Refusal of such Securitys, which it was necessary their Mightinesses should demand, in concert with the English Nation, their Allies and Confederates, and were so much the more reasonable, by how much the more danger those Powers were apprehensive of, from the Conjunction of France and Spain.

M E M O R I A L.

This step of your Lordships, and their true Interests, did equally persuade, that the desired Conferences should have an happy success, and the most Christian King declaring on his part, that he would omit nothing for preserving the Publick Tranquility, it seemed, that the first Alarms

larms of your Lordships would be happily calmed and removed, and that their Confidence in his Majesty's Affection, would dissipate the vain Apprehensions which the Accession of his Grandson to the Throne of *Spain* had struck them into. the Count *d' Avaux* did therefore hope, that after a short Embassy, he should soon return to his Master, with the satisfaction of having been employ'd in preventing the new Troubles *Europe* was threatned with.

A N S W E R.

The *step* which their Lordships made, in desiring *Regulated Conferences* from his most Christian Majesty, shews 'em very earnest for continuing the Publick Peace; and if the *French* Minister had been sent with those Orders he would persuade the World he had, it would never have been rendered ineffectual. But what reason had their High Mightinesses to depend upon the simple Declaration of a Prince, that had broke through the most sacred Engagements; or, have any confidence in the Affections of a King, who had hem'd 'em in on every side with his Armies; and whose Conduct was to be suspected, from his Ambition after an Universal Monarchy, and his desire of Establishing (what he calls) the Catholic Religion, over all Christendom;

stendom ; and as he would have but *one* King to Govern it, and one Faith, which is opposite to theirs profess'd in it? Therefore the Count *d' Avaux* must needs have a very ill Opinion of the States, to imagine they would take his *Master's* verbal Promise, when he had just before violated the most solemn Agreement in the Treaty of Partition, or think he himself could return home from his Embassy *with satisfaction*, who had deny'd it to those he was sent to.

M E M O R I A L.

These his hopes were confirm'd when your Lordships acknowledging the Right of the King of *Spain*, wrote to that Prince to Congratulate his Accession to the Crown.

A N S W E R.

He might indeed have entertain'd hopes that he had lull'd 'em Asleep, in order to their Destruction, on their *Acknowledging* the new King of *Spain* ; but where Disimulation is us'd as the means to draw Men into Snares, the best way to avoid 'em is, to take the same measures with the Dissembler. This the prudent *Hollanders* did, by their Recognition of his Catholick Majesty's Title, and since the

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Enemy was at their very Gates, ready to lay hold on their Refusal, as a just occasion for a Rupture, by it they took off all manner of suspicion, in relation to their real Intentions, and had time given 'em to put their Frontier Towns in a state of Defence, to raise Troops, and enter into Confederacies, in order to prevent a known Peace-breaker from insulting 'em, as he did in the year 1672.

M E M O R I A L.

They shewed by that Resolution, worthy of their prudence, that if they persisted in demanding Securities for themselves, they at least owned the injustice of some Foreign Pretensions, and that they would avoid the dangerous troubles of interweaving the same with their own Interests. The most Christian King also forgetting the long silence of your Lordships on the Accession of the Catholick King, all things seemed to run to the strengthening of the Peace, when the Proposals of your Lordships, and those of the Envoy of the King of *England*, gave reason to believe, that War rather than Peace should be the effect of the strict Union which appeared between that Prince and your Lordships, by the conformity of those Proposals.

M E M O.

A N S W E R.

The Resolution their High Mightinesses took in order to countermine the Designs of a certain Prince, who was plotting their Destruction, was indeed worthy of their Foresight, and they could not be ignorant, from the known Conduct of the Person that was to grant the Securities, that how foreign soever other Potentate's *Pretensions* might be, his *Gallick* Majesty might recall those Securities whenever he pleased, as he lately did in *Flanders*, without the Intervention of other States in Confederacy with the *United Provinces*. Wherefore it was but necessary, since the Common Interest of Christendom laid in a due Ballance of Power, that other Princes in Conjunction with them, might make Demands suitable to the present Occasion, and the Apprehensions they had reason to entertain of his most Christian Majesty's designs from his aspiring Temper; and it was as certain as Truth it self, that without that King's Agreement to the Proposals of *England* and *Holland*, whose Interests are one, as their Dangers are mutual, nothing could keep him within his due Bounds, or serve as a Barrier to his Pride, after his Settlement of his Grandson in a Throne, which is acquired by Usurpation, and is to be maintained only by Violence.

M E M O R I A L.

They have afterwards protested that their excessive demands were the effect of a just apprehension produced by the Power of the King, and that they were not to be looked upon as an effect of the trust they had in their own strength ; but if those fears, so lively expressed in their Letter to the King of *Great Britain*, during the Session of the Parliament were real, and if your Lordships in representing the dangers they were threatned with on all sides, had nothing else in view than to prevent the same, they had in their own Hands the proper means to succeed therein.

A N S W E R.

Their Demands without doubt were the Effects of their Fear ; as it is certain, there would be no need of Securities in our common ways of Proceeding, were not the Persons that demanded 'em under a dread of being Defrauded without 'em ; and when People are sensible that the Men they deal with are of a Treacherous and Crafty Nature, and too Powerful for the Law to take hold of 'em, it is but common Prudence to make such Proposals as may tend to the Safety, as well as Satisfaction of those of less Abilities ; and it ought

ought to be understood not as a Contempt to the Man of Power, that he that has *none*, offers to Capitulate with him, but should be receiv'd as a true Knowledge of that Greatness, which Men in Authority are generally fond of having made Publick. And as there is no room to suspect but their *Memorial* to the King of *England*, during the Session of Parliament, was grounded on their Fear of such Troublesome Neighbours as the *French* in the *Spanish Guelderland*; so they could not but know, that the way to prevent an Invasion, was to provide against it, and call for that Assistance which had been stipulated to them, by an Antient Alliance with the Kingdom of *Great Britain*; being well assured they were so far from having the *means* of their *Security in their own Hands*, that they must of consequence be swallow'd up, were not they in those of other Princes.

M E M O R I A L.

There was no need of Bringing so great a number of Troops into the Field, to buy at a dear rate Foreign Alliances, to drown their Provinces, and to make all the extraordinary Preparations for the greatest Wars. Your Lordships themselves had desired Conferences as a means to secure the Peace, and it was in their Powee to
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render the same useful. The King did never intend to prolong them by vain difficulties, and to improve those delays for preparing himself for War, under a false appearance of Peace.

A N S W E R.

When above a Hundred and Forty Thousand Men are in readiness to Attack 'em, and a Prince who never yet stuck at the Breach of a Treaty, crys *Peace, Peace, when there is no Peace* in his Heart, its high time to bring Armies into the Field, to make Alliances tho never so Expensive, and to be forward in their Preparations for War, in order to keep it off. For there is nothing like treating with Sword in Hand, with a Powerful Enemy; and the way to prevail for an Advantageous Peace, is to be well provided for a War. These were the Considerations that mov'd their High Mightinesses to make Armaments by Sea and Land, to drown part of their Country to secure the rest; and tho 'tis acknowledged they desired the Conferences, 'twas well known they had it not in their Power to make 'em successful. Had the King that sent his Ambassador to know their Proposals, found 'em not in a Defensive Condition, he would then have prescribed what Articles he pleased, and having taken
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Advantages of their Delays, in putting the *Spanish* Towns in a posture of Defence, and Fortifying their Sea-ports, would infallibly have fallen upon those whose business it now is to be the first Aggressor.

MEMORIAL.

His Majesty being strictly united with his Grandson, has not formed any incident for the admission of the *Spanish* Ambassador into the Conferences, and has made use of no pretence for retarding the effect thereof. They were begun for treating therein of the Interest of your Lordships alone. It was in your Hands to bring them to a speedy conclusion, to find therein the security of your Provinces, the advantages for your Commerce, and an eternal assurance in the Friendship of the most Christian King.

ANSWER.

There was no occasion for a *Spanish* Ambassador, he could do no more than manage his Master's Interest, and that was done to his Hands, by the Servant of the *Spanish* Kings Master, who is so strictly *Confederated* with his Grandson, that if other Confederates don't frustrate their Designs, they will one day bring the rest
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of *Europe* under the same Slavery, as they have brought *Spain*; and whatever the *French* King imagines he might bring the *Dutch* to, by the Conferences with his Ministers, it was visible in the Effect, they held their Interest inseparable from their Neighbours, and prefer'd the solid Friendship of a Faithful People, before that of a perfidious Prince, and Postpon'd the Advantages of Trade, they might have receiv'd for a while, from their Concurrence with a Prince that intended their Ruin, to the kind Offices of a Monarch, whose Love for them will have the same Duration as his Life; and whose Assurances of Friendship may be call'd *perpetual*, without an Irony, when his has nothing in 'em but what is either Transitory or Imaginary.

M E M O R I A L.

But instead of seriously endeavouring the same, your Lordships have put off the Conclusion, in insisting on the admission of the Envoy of the King of *England* into the Conferences with the Ambassador underwritten and your Deputies. They must not fancy that the true motive of that new demand has escaped the penetration of his most Christian Majesty. It was easie to guess, that it was not for the furthering the
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the success of the Negotiations, your Lordships desired the intervention of a Power, which has no pretence to pretend to any security for it self. If his Majesty has for some time opposed the same, and offered to your Lordships that the Negotiations begun at the *Hague* for the strengthening of the Peace, should be continued at *Paris*, his Majesty acted by the same Principle which rules his whole Conduct, that is by the sincere desire of removing all the obstacles which the Enemies of the Peace are perpetually raising.

A N S W E R.

There is no question to be made, but the States went earnestly on with the Treaty, from the consideration of the Dangers that threatned 'em, but if they knew from the Constitution of the Prince they were treating with, that if once they were separated from their Allies, they could have no other satisfaction than to be the last devoured; and that without the intervention of the King of *England*, there was no possibility of obtaining of any lasting Se-
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curity, it was but needful that his Majesty's Envoy should assist at the Conference, and propose such Terms as might be advantageous to his Master's Interests, and conducive to the Establishment of theirs. And since every smatterer in Politicks can tell us, one King ought to be jealous of another, when his Dominions increase beyond their due Extent, and are swoln to a Prodigy of Greatness, it was what his Majesty ow'd to his Subjects, to desire some Cautionary Places, as a Pledge of the Reality of the *French* King's Intentions for Peace ; and since his Majesty propos'd no other Advantage to himself, than the Honour of being the Preserver of the Liberties of *Europe*, and the Revenues of those Towns were still to belong to the Catholick King, the King his Grandfather would not insist upon the Refusal of 'em, had he those *sincere Desires* for the Tranquility of Christendom that his Minister extols him for, or design'd to shew any Tokens of good Will, to a Nation whose Envoy was admitted into the Negotiations, and had a Priviledg to demand what would be most instrumental to the Publick Repose.

MEMORIAL.

M E M O R I A L.

He foresaw well enough what would be the success of the Conference at the *Hague*, and that the difficulty on the admission of Envoy of *England* would be no sooner removed, but that some other incident more capable of perplexing the Negotiation, would be industriously started up.

A N S W E R.

Every one that has had any knowledge of *Lewis* the Fourteenth's Proceedings, must of necessity agree with his Minister, that his Master is a Gentleman of great Penetration; but he had no great occasion for the Exercise of it, to foresee the Consequences of a Treaty which he had agreed should be set on foot only to amuze the Provinces, he design'd to subjeçt under the same Slavery as the other *Netherlands*, and that he might be better provided to bring about his Designs, than an immediate War would have permitted him to be.

M E M O R I A L.

The King indeed could hardly believe, that your Lordships would be easily induced to insist on the the pretended satisfaction of the Emperor, to espouse the Interests of that Prince, to mingle them with those of the Republick, to set up for *Arbiters*, between the Houses of *France* and *Austria*, to determine, that *Philip IV.* had a right and power to change as he pleased the Constitution of his Kingdom, and exclude for ever the true Heirs. That *Charles II.* on the contrary had no Authority to re-call those Heirs, and re-establish by his Will the Fundamental Laws of the Crown of *Spain*.

A N S W E R.

I am apt to think, he knew the Justice of the Emperor's Claim so well, and was so sensible of the House of *Austria's* Right to the *Spanish* Dominions, that he made no doubt but they would Act in favour of it, and stand by that Antient Alliance which had for many
years

years been cultivated and improved between 'em. And since those Kingdoms by solemn Oaths and Assurances, by Renuntiations and Engagements at the High Altar, were not to devolve on the House of *France*; since his present Majesty that bears the Title of *The most Christian King*, at his Marriage with the *Infanta* of *Spain*, Sign'd, Seal'd, and Swore, to the Observation of those Engagements; and *Philip* the Fourth, who had no Cardinal to put a force upon his Conscience, and Dictate the Language of *French Louis d'ors* to him, made it an Article of his last Will and Testament, since the late King *Charles* the Second, was known to be a Gentleman of more Piety to his dead Father's Memory, and of more Affection to that Illustrious Family he was descended from, than to give away those Kingdoms which should have been unalienable by his Fathers Will, and had continued so by his own, if the Person that gave him his Passport into the other World would have suffer'd it. As for their setting up for Arbiters between the Emperor and the King of *France*, their designs cannot be taken in any other Sence, than that they made it
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their endeavour to bring the Parties concern'd to an Agreement, that the Peace might be preserv'd, and a new War prevented, by settling the Succession of *Spain* according to the Treaty of Partition, which is so far from their High Mightinesses taking upon themselves to propose Terms of Agreement between two such great Princes, that even the *French* King himself was one of the Mediators, and actually gave his consent to what was then transacted, by being Personally concern'd in it.

MEMORIAL.

And indeed it was hardly to be believed, that so wise a Republick, should in favour of the House of *Austria* against *France*, resolve to break those Treaties, which have been regarded as the Confirmation and Seal of their Sovereignty; That they would, to the cost of their own Provinces, the Trade of their Subjects, and their Riches, engage themselves to support a Foreign Interest, few Months after they have made a quite contrary step in acknowledging

ledging the King of *Spain*. But it appears, that these Considerations, which formerly would have been weighty in your Republick, have yeilded to newer Maxims.

A N S W E R.

The Treaties which the *States General* have for some years last past enter'd into with his Imperial Majesty, are so binding, that they cannot act any thing that is not in Favour of the *Austrian* Family, and they are so far from thinking their Sovereignty has any dependance upon that of the most Christian King, that they are ready to prove, that their respective Provinces have exercised Sovereign Authority long before their Alliance with his Majesty, or his Predecessors, and are resolved to maintain their Right to the continuance of it, with the Expence of their Treasure and Blood; and as their Republick has from its beginning follow'd those Sentiments, so it cannot be, that they now change their antient Principles, for newer Maxims.

MEMORIAL.

M E M O R I A L.

The Ambassador under written thinks, that he should abuse the Trust the King his Master is pleased to honour him with, if he should write any longer, that there is yet some success to be expected from the Conferences.

A N S W E R.

If the *Count* means by the word *Success*, any private Advantage to his Master, by outwitting the States, and drawing 'em off from their Alliances, I agree with him, that *it is not to be expected*; but if he would have us understand from that Expression, a Progress in the Negotiations for the Publick Good, we might reasonably hope for it, had we any other Prince to deal with than his Master; who prefers his own Interest to all Considerations whatsoever, 'Tis true, the King of *England* has declared by his Envoy, that he will never depart from the Interest of the Emperor, but that is no obstruction to the Peace, but makes it more General, by including his Imperial Majesty
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n it ; and if the King of *France* had any value for the repose of *Europe*, he would give his consent that the House of *Austria's* Pretensions might be examin'd, and some Expedients found out and accepted, to qualifie that Prince's Resentments for the late ill Treatment he receiv'd from the *French* and *Spaniard*.

M E M O R I A L.

His Majesty is too penetrating to believe any such thing after the Declaration the Envoy of the King of *England* has made, as he says, on the part of the King his Master, to the said Ambassador. Your Lordships know how that Envoy has signified unto him that the King of *Great Britian* will never depart from the Interests of the Emperor, nor enter into any Accommodation, unless satisfaction is given to that Prince.

A N S W E R.

Its a sign his Majesty believes the King of *Great Britain* a Prince of his Word, and that he will stand by his

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Alliances, when no man living can give him that Character, that knows any thing of his Proceedings; and it is but reasonable his Imperial Majesty should have some satisfaction given him when he has so fair a Plea to the Succession of the whole *Spanish* Dominions; and that his *Britanick* Majesty should insist upon it, after such Proofs of the Emperor's Inviolable Fidelity and Union with the *English* Nation.

M E M O R I A L.

The Unity of your Lordships with the King of *England* is too strict, your Lordships have too much manifested, that they would blindly follow the Sentiments of that Prince, and take such Measures as he himself should think convenient, not to leave any room to doubt: but your Lordships have already resolved to make the same Declaration to the Ambassador of the most Christian King.

A N S W E R.

The States of *Holland* ought in a double Respect to stand by the Interests

rests of the King of *England*, both in respect of his *Stadtholdership*, and the Alliance they have entred into with him, as to the mutual preservation of each others Dominions ; and tho' 'tis well known they do not blindly submit the Sentiments of his Majesty of *Great Britain*, as they are charg'd with, they cannot but have a deference for his Advice , a grateful Acknowledgment for the many Deliverances he has heap'd on them, and the convincing proofs he has giv'n 'em, of an intire Inclination to the Continuance of the *Peace*, and such undeniable Instances of the Affection his Majesty bears for the Good and Happiness of their Republick. And if their High Mightinesses should act in concert with the King of *England*, and demand that the Emperor be invited into the Treaty, to agree about the satisfaction to be given him, it is no more than what was Stipulated in the Negotiations relating to the Partition, which his most Christian Majesty at that time agreed to.

M E M O R I A L.

They have already done it, they have declared that their Deputies could not continue their Conferences without the intervention of the Envoy of *England*. He excludes himself from 'em, and they are immediately suspended. From whence it appears that it would be to no purpose that the Ambassador of the most Christian King should any longer continue at the *Hague*, whither he was sent, for no other end but for these Conferences.

A N S W E R.

The Declaration they made, in reference to the *English* Envoy, had nothing but Justice in it, and the Conference is suspended only because the Count *d' Avaux's* Master will not hear-ken to the voice of Equity; and the said Negotiator, tho' he pretends to come on purpose to enter into those Conferences, might stay some time longer at the *Hague*, under the Character of his most Christian Majesty's Ambassador, notwithstanding the Conference

ference is broke off, had his Master any design to continue the Peace; since 'tis visible, that when a Person under his Character withdraws himself, and no Minister is sent in his room, that the Prince he belongs to resents the Proceedings of that Court where he resided.

M E M O R I A L.

If he has not the satisfaction of having fulfilled the Intentions of his Majesty in leaving Peace established for a long time between him and the United Provinces, he has at least that pleasure of having convinced the World, that if the Publick Tranquility is interrupted, the blame thereof shall not lie at his Door.

A N S W E R.

Without all manner of Question, he has punctually observ'd his Master's *Intentions*, and is satisfy'd that the most Christian King will reward him for his Performances, in amuzing the States of Christendom with hopes of large concessions, when he had nothing less
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in his Thoughts than the Grant of any one thing that should promote the common Security: but he takes *Pleasure* in the Dissatisfaction of the Publick, if he congratulates himself with the opinion they will have of him, when they come to know at whose Door the fault lies, of the Conferences being interrupted.

MEMORIAL.

That his Majesty has Arm'd himself only for the defence of the King his Gran-son. That if he design'd any Conquests, it was easie for him; his Troops being on the Frountiers of your Republick, he might have easily profited from the weak state you were in at that time. Your Lordships will not fear that this should be told, seeing they themselves have every where published the same, and this Truth own'd by themselves, ought to make them sensible that it has always been in their Power, to find in the Frindship of his Majesty all the Security which they thought to have lost by the Accession of his Grand-son to the Crown of *Spain*.

ANSWER.

A N S W E R.

If his Majesty Arm'd himself only for the Defence of his Grandson, why did he not withdraw his Troops, after those whom he was apprehensive of, had acknowledg'd the young King of *Spain's* Title, and had complimented him on his Accession to the Throne, and he had provided sufficient Garrisons for the Towns in the *Netherlands*, and recruited the *Spanish* Troops, which were sufficient of themselves to defend their own Towns, without their being Ruin'd by those Friendly sort of Foes, which go under the name of *Auxiliaries*? And 'tis not to be disputed, but had the Triple-Alliance been Concluded between *France, Spain, and Portugal*, at the time when the States were under that weakness as he insinuates, that his Master would have made bold with as many Towns as he could get into his Hands. But his Cards were to be play'd another way at that Juncture. Such an Action would have Alarm'd the Princes of *Italy*, and the Emperor,

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and made the King of *Portugal*, who knew the *Spaniard's* Preteusions to *Holland* were not more Just, than those he laid to *Portugal*, certainly to side with them against the *French*, as the Common Enemy, that durst affirm sometime before, that an Union with *France* was a *Seal* of the *Hollanders* Sovereignty, when 'tis known that their Provinces have allways been Free, and exercised Sovereign Authority, that their Ancestors have spent their Blood and Estates in defence of their Rights and Liberties, and that they who are at this time Possess'd of the same Country, are now ready to take up the same Noble Resolutions as their Gallant Fathers put in Practice; if any Potentate whatsoever shall think it Adviseable to Attack 'em.

M E M O R I A L.

If these Considerations, which it is yet time to make, are not able to prevent a War, the most Christian King has cause to hope, that God rewarding the cares of the Majesty for the preservation

vation of the Repose of *Christendom*, will continue to pour on the Justice of his Cause the same Blessings which the Divine Providence has heaped upon him during the course of his Glorious Reign; that such as dare to attack him, will know by the Event, that it is neither his Weakness, nor distrust of his Strength, which have hitherto withheld his Arms,

A N S W E R.

They are still ready to go on with the Conferences, provided his most Christian Majesty agrees to the Preliminaries propos'd to him by the Plenipotentiary of *England* and *Holland*; and to that end have actually desir'd, that the Count *D' Avaux* may be permitted a longer stay with them, in order to consult whether Means may yet be found to prevent the Danger that *Europe* is threatned with from a New Effusion of Christian Blood. And whatever Confidence the *French* King may have in that God whose Servants he Persecutes after the most cruel manner imaginable; the Sincerity of their

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Actions will in all probability draw down Blessings on their Endeavours, both by Sea and Land, and the Divine Being will Protect their Fleets and Armies from the Designs of a Prince, who like the *Czar of Muscovy*, against *Sweden*, make such trival Affairs, as giving Chase to a little Bark whom they did not know to be *French*, an Argument to break the Peace.

MEMORIAL.

That they will see that he might have avenged the Affronts put upon his Flagg, and prevent his Subjects from being seized and dealt with as Enemies, by the *Dutch* and *English* Ships. That he might hinder the said Ships to come and sound his Harbours, and fire upon the *French* Ships. Lastly, that it was in his Power to seize Places that were then defenceless, and obtain most considerable Advantages for maintaining a War, which he foresaw from the Conduct of the Neighbouring Power. That if his Majesty has dissembled those Affronts, and neglected the use he could make of the own'd Superiority
of

of his Forces, he has done it for no other design, than for taking from his Enemies the least occasion of saying, that he has in the least acted contrary to the exact observation of the Treaties of *Reswick*.

A N S W E R.

His Majesty without all doubt would have complain'd of any Injustice done to his Subjects had he been truly satisfy'd of it long before this time, and have had Satisfaction from their High Mightinesses, who are such Lovers of Equity, as to be very ready to make Reparation for the least of Injuries : But when he has nothing to say in Favour of the Breach of a Treaty, which he has been Guilty of, by building Forts within Cannon Shot of their Walls, and Introducing Prodigious Armies almost into their very Frontiers ; He makes use of the Treaty of *Reswick*, which he has long since expressly broken, on the Account of the Dutchy of *Montbelgano*, as a means for his Justification.

M E M O R I A L.

The underwritten Ambassador wishes, that your Lordships being convinced by the Conduct of his Majesty, of the sincerity of his Intentions, would take, which it is yet time to do, Resolutions suitable to their true Advantages. And though his departure hinders him from the glory of being Instrumental therein, he will always concern himself in the Happiness of your Republick, having had for so many Years the Honour of attending the King's Orders near your Lordships.

D' Avaux.

A N S W E R.

Their High Mightinesses without doubt have given the Ambassador their Thanks for his kind Wishes; but I durst be perswaded that they hold themselves satisfy'd that they have not made so much as one step in the Conferences, which has not been *suitable to their true Advantages*;

Advantages; and since his Master's Orders for him to return Home, will not permit him to have *the Glory of being Instrumental* towards one Just Action in the Reign of *Lewis XIV.* they dismiss him with all the Content Imaginable, having nothing on their Parts to Answer for the Effusion of Christian Blood that will infallibly follow the ill success of their Negotiations, and no Obstacle to be charg'd with what hinder'd the Preservation of the Peace, but such Proposals of Security, without which it was not possible for it to be *lasting*.

FINIS.

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